

I CLAIM:

1. A method of formatting and transferring image data from a first location to a second location comprising the steps of:
  - retrieving the image data from the first location;
  - 5 receiving a command from a user to save the image data to the second location;
  - in response to the step of receiving a command from a user to save the image data to the second location, presenting to the user an interface for selecting image data format settings, wherein the interface also comprises a graphic actuator for receiving a command from the user to complete the saving of the image data to the second location;
  - 10 receiving a user selection of a set of image data format settings;
  - formatting the image data in accordance with the set of image data format settings; and
  - receiving a user command via the graphic actuator for receiving a command from the user to complete the saving of the image data to the second location, whereby saving
  - 15 of the image data to the second location is completed.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the set of image data format settings are saved as a named set.
- 20 3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of receiving a user selection of a set of image data format settings comprises the step of receiving from a user a name associated with a saved set of image data format settings.

4. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of receiving a user selection of a set of image data format settings comprises the step of receiving a user command specifying selected format options to be applied to the image data.

5 5. The method according to claim 1 wherein the first location is selected from the group consisting of: a file stored in a non-volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored in a volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored on a node of a network, a scanner logically connected to the processing unit of a personal computer, a peripheral device, and a capture device.

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6. The method according to claim 1 wherein the second location is selected from the group consisting of: a file stored in a non-volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored in a volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored on a node of a network, a peripheral device, and a file stored on a digital picture frame.

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7. The method according to claim 5 wherein the first location and the second location are the same.

8. The method according to claim 6 wherein the second location is a file stored in a 20 non-volatile memory of a personal computer and saving of the image data to the second location further comprises the step of automatically overwriting image data at the second location without generating an error message for display to the user.

9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the second location is a file stored on a digital picture frame, and saving of the image data to the second location further comprises the step of transferring the image data to the digital picture frame.

5 10. The method according to claim 9 further comprising the steps of:  
automatically detecting that the digital picture frame is connected to the personal computer; and  
automatically determining a type of media usable by the digital picture frame.

10 11. The method according to claim 1 wherein saving of the image data to the second location further comprises the step of passing the image data from the first location to the second location by the use of a file transfer protocol.

12. The method according to claim 1 wherein the image data corresponds to an image retrievable over a network, and wherein the first location is a temporary file in a personal computer to which the image data has been downloaded from the network, wherein saving of the image data to the second location further comprises the step of transferring image data over the network to the second location.

20 13. The method according to claim 12 wherein the image data represents a picture on a page retrievable from a node of the network.

14. The method according to claim 1 further including the step of saving the image data to a plurality of locations.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the image data, when saved to the 5 plurality of locations, is formatted differently for at least two of the plurality of locations respectively.

16. The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of retrieving the image data from the first location further comprises the step of retrieving a plurality of sets of image 10 data from a plurality of locations and wherein the step of formatting the image data further comprises the step of applying at least one named set of image format settings to the plurality of sets of image data.

17. A method of automatically transferring image data from an image data source to 15 an image data destination comprising the steps of:  
reading a task wherein the task describes a scheduled time, an identification of the image data source, an identification of the image data destination, and a set of image data format settings;  
determining automatically that the scheduled time has arrived;  
20 retrieving the image data automatically from the image data source;  
formatting the image data automatically in accordance with the set of image data format settings; and  
transferring the image data automatically to the image data destination.

18. The method according to claim 17 wherein the set of image data format settings are saved as a named set.

5 19. The method according to claim 18 wherein the step of formatting the image data automatically in accordance with the set of image data format settings comprises the step of applying the named set automatically to the image data.

10 20. The method according to claim 17 wherein the identification of the image data source is a list of at least one URI entered by the user.

21. A method according to claim 17 wherein the identification of the image data source corresponds to a graphical pump album file.

15 22. The method according to claim 17 wherein the image data source is selected from the group consisting of: a file stored in a non-volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored in a volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored on a node of a network, a scanner logically connected to the processing unit of a personal computer, a peripheral device, and a capture device.

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23. The method according to claim 17 wherein the image data destination is selected from the group consisting of: a file stored in a non-volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored in a volatile memory of a personal computer, a file stored on a

node of a network, a peripheral device, and a file stored on a digital picture frame that is logically connectable to a personal computer.

24. The method according to claim 23 wherein the second location is a file stored in a  
5 non-volatile memory of a personal computer and the step of transferring the image data automatically further comprises the step of automatically overwriting image data at the image data destination without generating an error message for display to the user.

25. The method according to claim 22 wherein a location of the image data source  
10 and a location of the image data destination are the same.

26. The method according to claim 17, wherein the identification of the image data destination identifies a plurality of image data destinations and the set of image data format settings includes a plurality of sets of image data format settings, the method  
15 further comprising the steps of:

applying to the image data automatically the plurality of sets of image data format settings to create a plurality of sets of formatted image data; and  
transferring at least one of the plurality of sets of formatted image data to at least one of the plurality of image data destinations.

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27. The method according to claim 17 further including the step of saving the image data to a plurality of image data destinations.

28. The method according to claim 27, wherein the image data, when saved to the plurality of image data destinations, is formatted differently for at least two of the plurality of image data destinations respectively.

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29. The method according to claim 17 wherein transferring the image data to the image data destination further comprises the step of passing the image data from the image data source to the image data destination by the use of a file transfer protocol.

10 30. The method according to claim 17 wherein the step of retrieving the image data from the image data source further comprises the step of automatically retrieving a plurality of sets of image data from a plurality of image data sources and wherein the step of automatically formatting the image data further comprises the step of applying at least one named set of image format settings to the plurality of sets of image data.

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31. A method for transferring and sharing image data comprising the steps of:  
receiving image data at a first location, wherein the image data was transferred to the first location from a second location;  
at the first location, reading a rule correlating a characteristic of the image data with a set of image data format settings and a third location;  
applying automatically the set of image data format settings to the received image data; and  
transferring automatically the image data to the third location.

32. The method according to claim 31, wherein the image data characteristic is selected from the group consisting of: meta-data associated with the image data, an indication of a human user at the second location, an indication of an identity of the 5 second location, a filename, and a content of a file.

33. The method according to claim 31 wherein the image data format settings are saved as a named set.

10 34. The method according to claim 31, wherein the characteristic of the image data is correlated by rule with a plurality of third locations and a plurality of sets of image data format settings, further comprising:

applying the plurality of image data format settings to the image data to create a plurality of sets of formatted image data; and

15 transferring the plurality of sets of formatted image data to the plurality of third locations.

35. The method according to claim 31, wherein the first location is a memory location within a personal computer and the third location is another memory location within the 20 personal computer.

36. The method according to claim 31 wherein the second location is a file on the file system of a personal computer of a second user.

37. The method according to claim 31, wherein the second location is selected from the group consisting of: a file in a non-volatile memory of a personal computer of a second user, a file in a volatile memory of a personal computer of a second user, a file stored on a node of a network, a scanner logically connected to a processing unit of a personal computer of a second user, a peripheral device, and a capture device.

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38. The method according to claim 31, wherein the third location is selected from the group consisting of: a file in a non-volatile memory of a personal computer of a second user, a file in a volatile memory of a personal computer of a second user, a file stored on a node of a network, a digital picture frame connectable to a personal computer, a peripheral device, and a capture device.

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39. The method according to claim 31 wherein the characteristic of the image data allows a logical determination to be made as to the subject of the image data.

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40. The method according to claim 39 wherein the characteristic of the image data is correlated by rule with a plurality of locations and a plurality of image data format settings further comprising:

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applying the plurality of image data format settings to the image data to create a plurality of sets of formatted image data; and

transferring the at least one of the plurality of sets of formatted image data to at least one of the plurality of locations.

41. The method according to claim 31 wherein the step of receiving image data at the first location further comprises the step of automatically retrieving a plurality of sets of image data from a plurality of second locations and wherein the step of applying 5 automatically the set of image data format settings further comprises the step of applying at least one named set of image format settings to the plurality of sets of image data.

42. The method according to claim 31 further comprising the steps of:

at the first location reading a plurality of rules correlating a plurality of image 10 characteristics to a plurality of image data format settings and third locations; applying at least one of the plurality of image data format settings to the image data; and transferring the image data to at least two of the plurality of third locations.

15 43. The method according to claim 42 wherein the image data, when transferred to the at least two of the plurality of third locations, is formatted differently for the at least two of the plurality of third locations.

44. The method according to claim 31, wherein the step of receiving image data 20 further comprises the step of retrieving a plurality of sets of image data from a plurality of second locations, and wherein the step of applying automatically the set of image data format settings further comprises the step of applying at least one named set of image format settings to the plurality of sets of image data.

45. The method according to claim 31 wherein transferring the image data to the third location further comprises the step of passing the image data from the first location to the third location by the use of a file transfer protocol.

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46. The method according to claim 31 further including the step of saving the image data to a plurality of third locations.

47. For use in processing and transferring an original image using a computer having  
10 a display device, a computer-readable medium having thereon instructions for performing  
steps comprising:

retrieving image data from a first location;

receiving a command from a user to save the image data to a second location;

in response to the step of receiving a command from a user to save the image data

15 to the second location, presenting to the user an interface for selecting image

manipulation format settings, wherein the interface also comprises a graphic actuator for receiving a command from the user to complete the saving of the image data to the second location;

receiving a user selection of a set of image data format settings;

20                   formatting the image data in accordance with the set of image data format  
settings; and

receiving a user command via the graphic actuator for receiving a command from the user to complete the saving of the image data to the second location, whereby saving of the image data to the second location is completed.